

CLAIMS

1. A preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, comprising a compound or its salt that inhibits the activities of a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

2. A preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, comprising a compound or its salt that inhibits the expression of a gene for a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

3. An antisense nucleotide containing a base sequence complementary or substantially complementary to the base sequence of a DNA encoding a protein having the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof, or a part of the base sequence.

4. A preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, comprising the antisense nucleotide according to claim 3.

5. A preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, comprising an antibody to a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

6. The preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer according to claims 1 through 5, wherein the cancer is colorectal cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, esophageal cancer, gastric cancer, liver cancer, biliary tract cancer, spleen cancer, renal cancer, bladder cancer, uterus cancer, ovarian cancer, testicular cancer, thyroid cancer, pancreatic cancer, brain tumor or blood tumor.

7. A diagnostic product comprising an antibody to a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

8. A diagnostic product comprising a DNA encoding a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

9. The diagnostic product according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the cancer is colorectal cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, esophageal cancer, gastric cancer, liver cancer, biliary tract cancer, spleen cancer, renal cancer, bladder

cancer, uterus cancer, ovarian cancer, testicular cancer, thyroid cancer, pancreatic cancer, brain tumor or blood tumor.

10. A preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, comprising a compound having a regulatory action on the histone methyltransferase activity, or a salt thereof.

11. A preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, comprising a compound having a histone methyltransferase expression regulatory action, or a salt thereof.

12. A method of screening a preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, which comprises using a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

13. A kit for screening a preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, comprising a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

14. A method of screening a preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, which comprises using a DNA encoding a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

15. A kit for screening a preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, comprising a DNA encoding a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

16. A preventive/therapeutic agent for cancer, which is obtainable by using the screening method according to claim 12 or 14 or the screening kit according to claim 13 or 15.

17. An apoptosis inducer comprising a compound or its salt that inhibits the activities of a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

18. An apoptosis inducer comprising a compound or its salt that inhibits the expression of a gene for a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

19. A method of screening an apoptosis inducer, which comprises using a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the

amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

20. A method of screening an apoptosis inducer, which comprises using a DNA encoding a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

21. A method of preventing/treating cancer, which comprises administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound or its salt that inhibits the activities of a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof, or a compound or its salt that inhibits the expression of a gene for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

22. Use of a compound or its salt that inhibits the activities of a protein containing the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide or a salt thereof, or a compound or its salt that inhibits the expression of a gene for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.